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Marathon land in Garyville designated Ready for Reuse

BATON ROUGE – The Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and Marathon Petroleum celebrated the completion of a Ready for Reuse project in Garyville today. Marathon's Louisiana Refining Division was awarded a determination letter and certificate by DEQ and EPA signifying that the land has been cleaned and can be put back into use.

A Ready for Reuse Determination is an acknowledgment by DEQ and EPA that environmental conditions on the property are protective of human health and the environment based on its current and anticipated future use.

The property encompassed by this Ready for Reuse Determination consists of two oily sludge impoundments used by Marathon Petroleum Company until 1988 as temporary storage facilities for oily sludges prior to being cleaned up. The property is located within the Garyville Refinery. Both impoundments have achieved closure and are currently under post-closure monitoring. With this determination, DEQ and EPA have concluded that Marathon Petroleum has successfully conducted investigation and risk management activities.

"Marathon continues to demonstrate that a clean environment is important to them. This ceremony is a testament to the work many people put into cleaning up this land and getting it ready to be put back into commerce," said Harold Leggett, DEQ Secretary. "The Ready for Reuse program is beneficial for economic reasons because land can be put back into use and is now productive again. It's good for the environment because the contamination was addressed in a way that meets state and federal standards."

"Getting property back into productive use is one of our highest priorities," said Acting EPA Regional Administrator Lawrence E. Starfield. "This determination clears the way by providing the necessary assurances to assist in the redevelopment of this valuable resource."

For more information about DEQ's voluntary remediation program, please visit www.deq.louisiana.gov or www.epa.gov to learn about EPA's Land Revitalization Action Agenda.